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LETTER

Sent from  
Collonel GILBERT KER, Lieutenant  
Col. HACKET, and Lieutenant Col.  
STRACHAN, to the Committee of Estates of  
the Kingdome of Scotland, May 9. 1649.

*My Lords,*

GOD hath delivered your enemies into your hands, the praise and honour be rendered unto himselfe, and now praise will very well become the upright in heart: To enlarge the particular circumstances of the action, it will not be very needfull; every particular hath been managed by a providence which is not admirable by any one thing but in the whole, so little of man or nothing, but wholly and all of God, yet we think it necessary to acquaint you with the way how the Lord brought it about: Upon Sunday at night we received some Intelligence at Innernesse, that the enemy was advanced down from Strath-Spey to Balvenie; And that they had a resolution, and that suddenly to make a march, and as our Intelligence from a carefull hand, being the Governour of the Barge, did informe, it was probable suddenly to dispatch us, at this time neither we, nor any that keepest correspondence with us, heard any newes from the Lieutenant Generall, and this made us thinke ourselves in some probable danger, being in a very narrow place if they should have entred Rosse upon us, not having above 150 horse; after consideration of our condition, we conceived that the

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Lord

Lord called for some thing from us in this dark time, the enemies making themselves strong, and getting up their Levies in severall places without any resistance, made us resolve to march the same night, being Sunday at night, & where ever we met, if the river was rydable to engage with them; that night we advanced towards *Caldell*, and refreshed a little in the morning, we had Intelligence of the enemies being at *Elgin*, and then concluded from that we must meet with them necessarily upon the march: In that place, having (in that weak manner we were able) sought the Lord in this matter, with freedom we resolved in the Lords strength to advance to *Forres*, there our former Intelligence was contradicted, we expected a considerable number of the Gentry of *Mucray*, which much or rather altogether failed us, yet notwithstanding, we conceived it necessary to advance that night, and if they had not crossed *Spey* to engage with them at *Balvenie-land*, though we met with some more difficulty that way; this being concluded, we came on Munday at night neer *Rothies*, where we refreshed three or four hours, & there we could not be certainly informed if that the water was rydable or not, only we heard that *Middleton* had tryed it, and it was impossible for him, yet being there, we resolved in the Lords strength to go on, & marching from that place early, we advanced towards the Foords, and trying one Foord, it was not to be ridden, but another above was, yet with great hazzard, for it was very strong and deep, and most that passed, swimmied, and one was lost; Lievtenant Collonell *Strachan* who commanded the fore-partie consisting of about 50 horse, being through, marched on, and quickly advanced up, passing by some quarters without notice, he marched up to a Body of their Foot, and most faithfully charged them, and brake them, and dissipated them; many then fled to the Hills, then the Alarm was universall, some drew to the Castle of *Balvenie* which was pursued still by the Lieutenant Collonel, another  
Body



(3.)

Body, under the Command of the Lord *Rae*, drew to some bushes of wood, and being drawne in there, had no out-gate though a strong ground for them, we then drew a partie to the other side of the Hill that they might not passe: By this time, comming to some discourse, my Lord *Rae* lent up, and we, after some debate, proffered them their lives, and only their lives: But after more consideration, we consulted upon these Articles of Capitulation here inclosed: We have with us at this time neer upon 800. and there are betwixt 60. and 80. killed, and not one of us; We conceive there are two or three hundred fled, if not more; And have directed letters to the Laird of *Graunt* (who indeed deserves to be cherished) to intercept them: Now, my Lords, we have no more to say, craving pardon for our tediousness, only this we dare say, that God speaketh this language to *Scotland* this day by his dispensations, that if they will have a tender eye to his Kingdome, you shall not be troubled much with any fear for your own: We earnestly desire your Commands, what course shall be taken with the people that we have, (ever providing our Capitulation be kept) for the security of the Kingdom, and because we are to conduct them to their own Country, we desire that the publick Commands may be sent to Lieutenant Generall *Lesley* with all expedition, for we are resolved to keep them together untill we hear from your Lordship, or from the Lieutenant Generall, which we humbly and earnestly desire may be with all expedition. We will not venture to trouble your Lordship any further, humbly taking our leaves, we remain

From *Tanachie* in *Enzie*,  
May 9. 1649.

Your Lordships most humble  
Servants,

GILBERT KER.

RO. HACKET.

ARCH. STRACHEN.

MAY the 9. 1649.

*Articles agreed on betwixt Colonel Gilbert Ker, Lieutenant Colonel Hacker, Lieutenant Colonel Strachan, and the Lord Rae, Colline Mackenzie, and Donald Macpherson, and their followers.*

1. **I**T is agreed, that the Lord Rae and all his followers shall have their lives.
2. That only the Tennents and Commons shall have liberty to go home, they leaving their Armes undefaced, and not imbezelled or conveyed away.
3. That all Irishes shall be at the disposall of Colonel Ker.
4. That all Ammunition whatsoever, and Horses usefull for service shall be delivered to Colonell Ker.
5. That the Lord Rae, Colline Mackenzie, and Donald Macpherson, do hereby oblige themselves under the hazard of losing their lives & estates, that the common Souldiers & Tenants which are to be dismissed, shall never hereafter rise in Armes to trouble the Peace of the Kingdom, or against the Estates.

GILBERT KER.

JO RAE.

RO. HACKET.

COLINE MACKENZIE.

ARCH. STRACHAN.

DONALD MACPHERSON.

The names of the Gentlemen and Officers that  
are to be kept.

The Lord Rae and his Uncle.

Captain Robert Mackay.

Duncan Mackay.

John Mackay.

Donald Mackay.

Charles Macklaine.

John Macallister.

Tonnie Mackenzie Calace.

The Officers belonging to Pluscar-  
Mackenzie of Reed-Castle. (den.

Colline Mackenzie.

Rorie Mackenzie.

Murdoch Mackenzie.

Heiter Mackenzie.

Kenneth Mackenzie.

John Dumbart.

Badzenoch-men.

Donald Macpherson.

Tho. Macpherson.

FINIS.



